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ABSTRACT

This report provides an overview of the efforts and results of adult basic education centers and classroom teachers and volunteers who provide instruction in the most basic and essential skills for the educationally disadvantaged adults in New York. Charts and graphs illustrate the data that are presented in this photograph-enhanced compilation of data from the New York State Adult Basic Education and High School Equivalency Program Report. These types of data are included: New York State adults served, students' demographic profiles at entry, students' social profiles, students' contact hours, contact hours and K-12 comparison, students' academic gains, students' social goals, students' economic gains, students realizing job improvements, cost per hour, current demand for literacy education, and need for growth of literacy programs. (YLB)

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Learning: A Rage At Any Age

CE

THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

MAY 1987

TO: Adult Basic Education and High School Equivalency Program Managers

FROM: Garrett W. Murphy, Director, Division of Adult and Continuing Education Programs

SUBJECT: Adult Literacy Program Report 1985-1986

The enclosed publication, *Adult Literacy Education Program New York State*, presents participant data for fiscal year 1985-1986. These data have been gathered from the *New York State Adult Basic Education and High School Equivalency Program Report* submitted by Directors of Continuing Education, Adult Basic Education Coordinators, and High School Equivalency Program Managers.

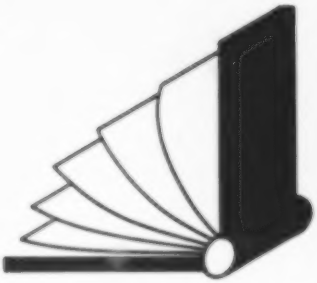
I hope that you find this report useful in generating support for your local literacy effort. You may want to develop charts that present the financial impact of your program by using the format presented on page 12. If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions for future reports, please do not hesitate to call your regional supervisor in the Bureau of Adult and Continuing Education Program Development at (518) 474-8700.

Learning Comes Through Patient Guidance

# ADULT LITERACY EDUCATION PROGRAM

## NEW YORK STATE

## Participant Data



1985-1986

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**THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**
**Bureau of Curriculum Development and Division of Adult and Continuing Education Programs**
**Albany, New York 12234**

**1987**

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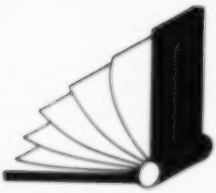
Consumer Awareness Leads to Financial Security

Literacy Means the Ability to Communicate Better

Literacy Means Expanding One's Mind and Opportunities

# foreword and acknowledgments



This report of New York State's 1985-1986 Literacy Education Program provides an overview of the efforts and results of many adult basic education centers and thousands of classroom teachers and volunteers dedicated to providing instruction in the most basic and essential skills for the educationally disadvantaged adults of our State.

During this past year, additional funding through Employment Preparation Education State aid and New York City's Municipal Assistance Corporation monies has made it possible for significantly more adults to be served. The results are impressive.

In the 1984-85 school year, 103,635 adults were enrolled in adult literacy programs administered by the Bureau of Adult and Continuing Education Program Development. In 1985-1986, the number rose to 115,581, an increase of 12 percent. The number of students receiving public assistance who enrolled increased by 22 percent, from 17,300 to 21,039; handicapped increased by 30 percent, from 3,797 to 4,925; immigrants increased by 29 percent, from 29,983 to 38,530; unemployed increased 2 percent, from 56,050 to 57,209; residents of rural areas increased 12 percent, from 12,315 to 13,705; and residents of urban areas with high rates of unemployment increased 11 percent, from 61,493 to 68,484.

New York State's adult literacy program provided 8,080,254 hours of literacy instruction, an increase of 17 percent over 1984-85. This additional effort has paid dividends. The total number of students who improved their reading skills increased by 3 percent, from 16,887 to 17,378; students who improved their ability to speak English increased 45 percent, from 14,462 to 20,914; students who went on to post-secondary education increased 195 percent, from 1,560 to 4,596; students who went on to further education or training increased 49 percent, from 4,207 to 6,253; students who received high school equivalency diplomas increased by 1 percent, from 12,478 to 12,653; students who received local high school diplomas increased 182 percent, from 361 to 1,017; students who registered to vote for the first time increased 16 percent, from 2,097 to 2,436; students who obtained jobs increased 3 percent, from 5,598 to 5,784; and students who improved their salaries increased 9 percent, from 2,522 to 2,765.

The gains evident in this report are indeed a tribute to the dedication of those who, by legislative efforts, administrative facilitation, or one-on-one instruction, have advanced our Nation's goal of assuring that all U.S. citizens enjoy the privileges and responsibilities of being literate.

Roberto Enrique Granados, Associate, Bureau of Adult and Continuing Education Program Development, managed and conducted the gathering of data, analyzed the data, and coordinated the preparation of the manuscript for publication. The photographs were obtained at the Suffolk I BOCES Adult Education Center, courtesy of Sharon A. Fagan, Project Administrator of Adult Basic Education; photography by Elaine Taylor and Peter VanDercreek; layout and design by the Center for Art & Design, New York State Education Department.

Literacy Promotes Greater Self-Confidence

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Working Toward a Common Goal: Migrant Education

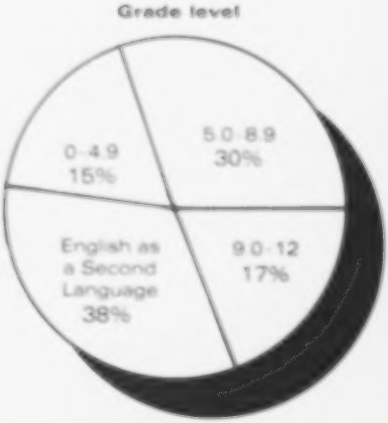
## new york state adults served

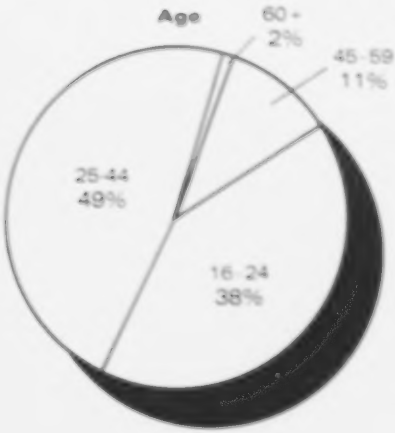
Some 115,581 adults were served in the Adult Literacy Program in 1985-1986. Many moved from being illiterate and unemployed or on welfare to being employed and independent of public assistance.

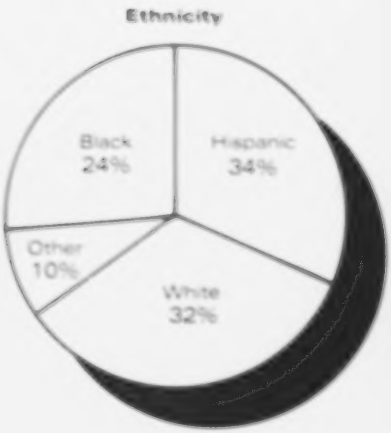
Literacy Helps to Clarify Complicated Directions

## students' demographic profiles at entry

The students in the Adult Literacy Program may be categorized as follows.



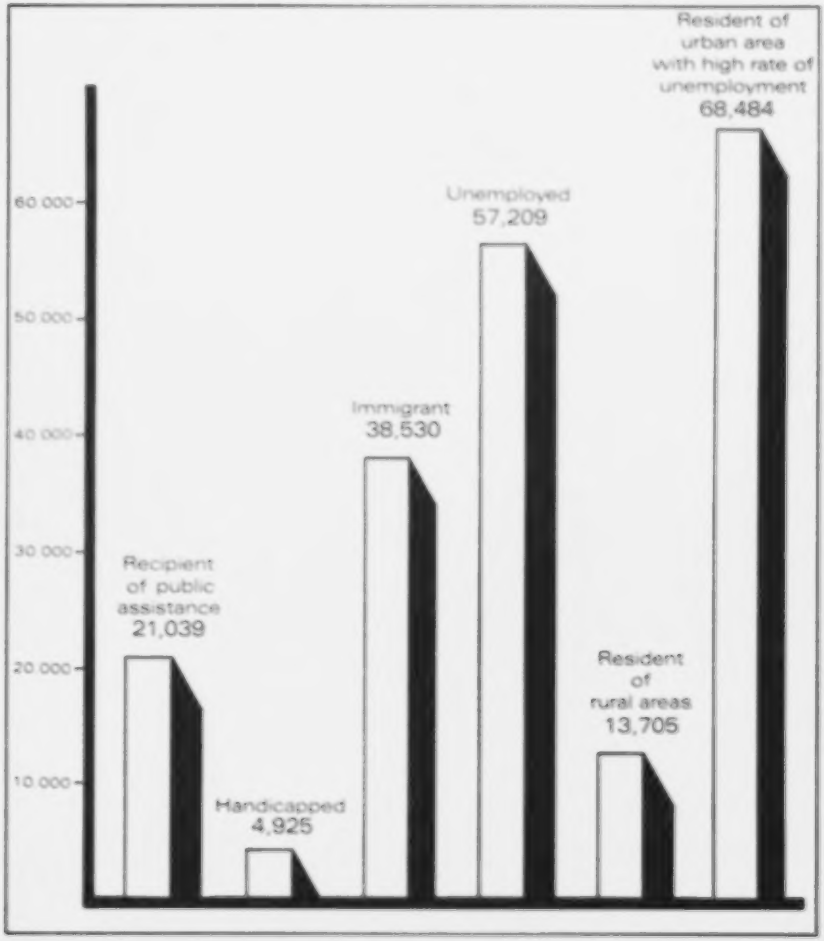



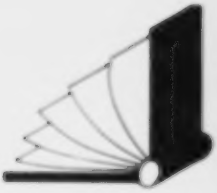
Literacy Stimulates One's Creativity

## students' social profiles

The 115,581 students served in the Adult Literacy Program may be broken down into the following groups. (Note: A student may be counted in more than one group.)

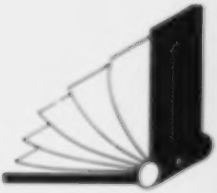


## students' contact hours



The 115,581 students spent a total of 8,080,254 hours in instruction. These are called "contact hours." The average contact hours per student were 69 hours, 54 minutes.

## contact hours and K-12 comparison



YEARS OF EDUCATION PROVIDED

During the year July 1, 1985-June 30, 1986 the New York State Literacy Program provided:

7,282 years of elementary education and 1,775 years of high school instruction for a total of 9,057 YEARS OF SCHOOLING FOR ADULTS.

RATIONALE:

1. New York State Public Schools for Children and Youth

   Average Elementary School
   182 days × 5.5 hours per day × 92% attendance = 921 hours per year per student

   Average High School
   180 days × 5 hours per day × 86% attendance = 774 hours per year per student

2. New York State Literacy Program for Adults
   Student Hours of Instruction: 1985-1986
   Grade Level Instruction 0-9 = 6,706,610 student instructional hours ÷ 921 = 7,282 student years
   High School Equivalency Instruction = 1,373,644 student instructional hours ÷ 774 = 1,775 student years

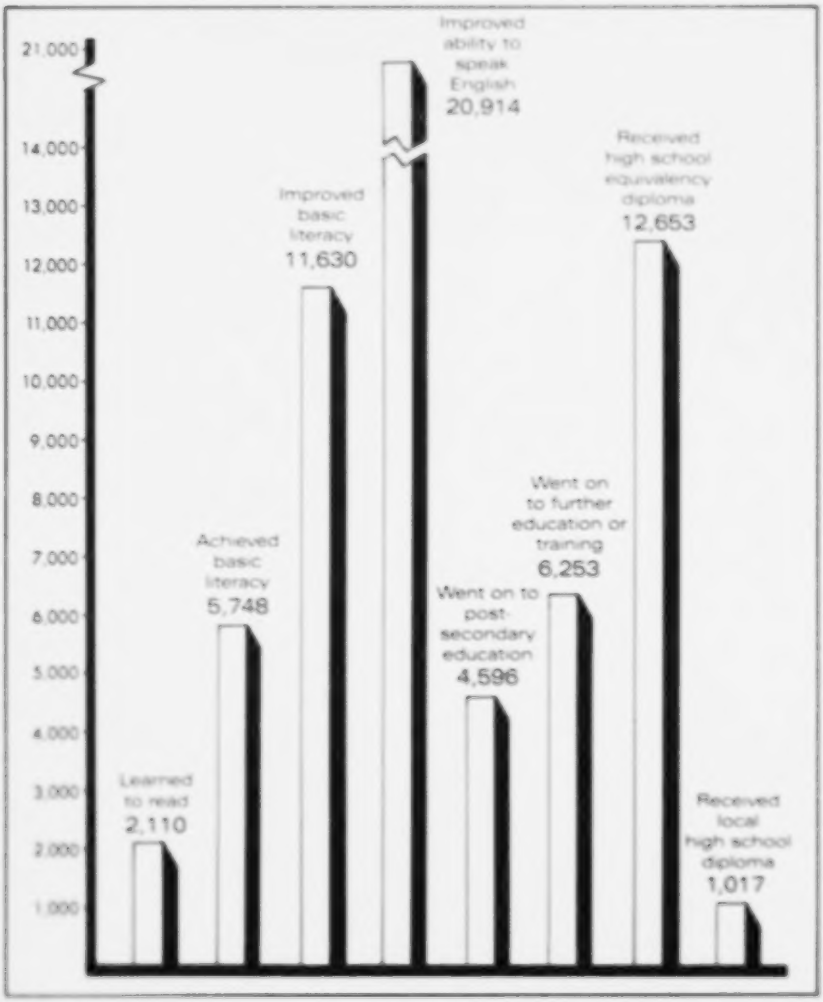
The Simplest Task Can Create a Thing of Beauty

The Enhancement of People's Lives

8

## students' academic gains

Students in the Adult Literacy Program realized the following academic goals.



## students' social goals

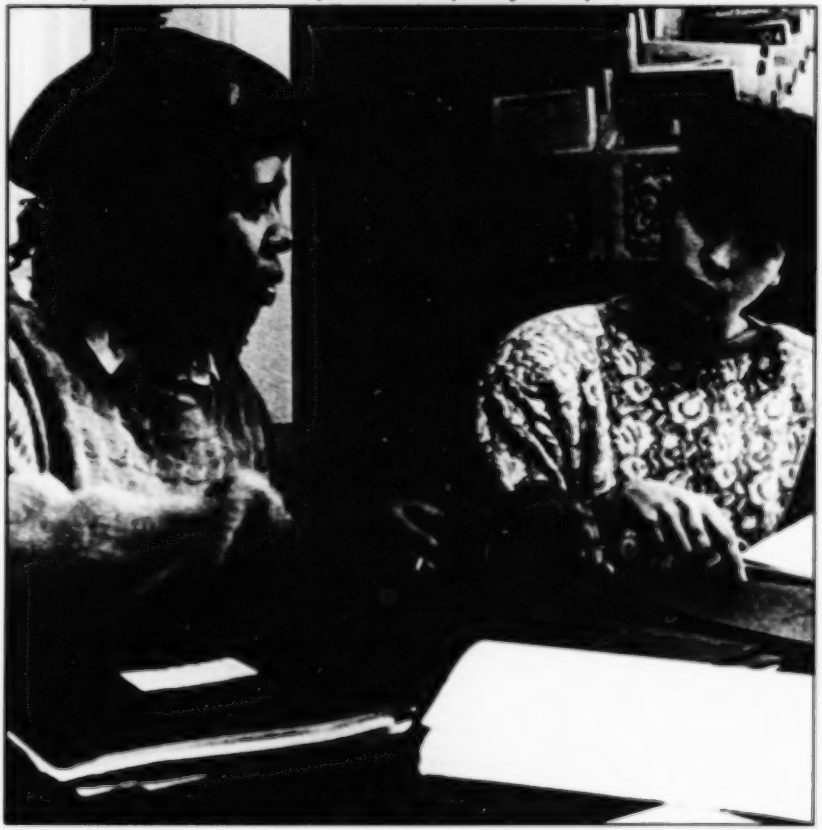
Students in the Adult Literacy Program realized the following social goals.

- 480 became U.S Citizens.
- 2,436 registered to vote for the first time.

## students' economic gains

5,784 of all unemployed students obtained jobs.

Literacy Reaches out to Every Community: Project Super



## students realizing job improvements

Five percent of employed students received a job upgrading or salary increase; this is 2,765 out of 52,531.

## cost per hour

$31,333,625 was spent on the Adult Literacy Program. Each hour of instruction for each student was made available to students at the low cost of $3.88 per hour.

$$\frac{\$31,333,625}{8,080,254 \text{ hours}} = \$3.88$$

Santa's
CHRISTMAS
TREE
Farm

Literacy Builds Pride in Accomplishment

## current demand for literacy education

32% of the total New York State population (18 years and older) do not have a high school diploma. (This is 4,100,000 individuals out of 12,869,227).

Career Planning Brings Hope for Everyone

## need for growth of literacy program

Youth and adults age 18 or over with less than 12 years of education (1990 U.S. Census).

1,184,614
ENROLLED IN ADULT LITERACY EDUCATION SINCE 1970
4,100,000
ADULT RESIDENTS OF NEW YORK STATE WHO NEED ADULT LITERACY EDUCATION

Working Cooperatively to Untangle Problems

Adult Career Counseling Promotes Learning